

- safety of international inspectorate, emergency procedures
- information and involvement of the public
- verification aspects
- means for international cooperation.

2) From the overall meeting, it appears that further discussions are needed as regard some provisions in the rolling text (articles IV, V and annexes) :

- sample taking at CW storage sites
- verification system for closed CW production facilities
- determination of the completion of the destruction of CW (irreversibility, inoperability)
- international cooperation and assistance.

IX - CONCLUDING REMARKS

A major conclusion of the meeting is that destruction of chemical weapons stocks is a complex issue with regard its technological, financial, legal, environmental and safety aspects, and the long lead times involved. Given that the negotiations of the Convention are in the final stage, it is imperative that all countries who have to carry out destruction activities now consider and plan how to meet time requirements of destroying their CW stocks and their former CW production facilities.

There was strong support for an appeal to countries to declare, as early as possible, the types and quantities of CW stockpiles they possess or to specify other related problems they are faced with, including old obsolete CW.

As far as bilateral or multilateral cooperation is concerned, it appeared clearly that countries involved in destruction activities are ready to share their experience with other countries also faced with problems of destruction.